

GLASTONBURY COMMISSON ON AGING

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**Minutes**

**MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2024**

**5:00 P.M.**

**In-Person-RCC**

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Gayle Kataja, Chair  
Jennifer DiSette, Vice Chair  
Chris Haaf  
Beth Hillson  
Phil Markuszka  
Susan Pearlman  
Denise Weeks

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1. **ROLL CALL:** Chris Haaf, Phil Markuszka absent. Ronda Guberman, Senior Center Supervisor in attendance. Gwenn Winkler attended as a guest.
2. **MINUTES** of the March 4, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Denise Weeks made a motion to accept and Beth Hillson seconded. Unanimously approved.
3. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:** were submitted in the packets for March 2024.
4. **SENIOR CENTER SUPERVISOR REPORT:**
  - a. ARPA Grant: The Town has an opportunity to apply for \$91,967 through the State Unit on Aging. The Town Council approved a resolution to apply for this grant funding. The grant will include funding for: fitness center equipment, enhancements to the main lobby and, if funds are available, café equipment purchases to expand the menu. All projects in the proposal must have a COVID connection. Benefits of these projects include: increase socialization, decrease isolation, improve physical and mental health and more. Jennifer DiSette made a motion for the COA to support the ARPA Grant application and Beth Hillson seconded. Unanimously approved.
  - b. Evening/Weekend Program Specialist: Emily Linton has been hired to fill this position and is busy learning about the Senior Services operation, programs and services. She has also started planning some events for April, May and June. We look forward to offering new programs, classes, cultural events and more.
  - c. Accreditation Open House Celebration: We will host a luncheon/open house on Tuesday, May 21 from 11:00 – 2:00. Keynote address is “Finding Your People” based on the Older Americans Month Theme: “The Power of Connection”, the impact of creating meaningful relationships and social connections for health and well-being. A pasta bar lunch will be served. There will be a showcase of art classes, fitness demos, pickleball and bocce lessons and more.

## 5. Old Business

- **Age Friendly Community Initiative Sub-Committee Reports**  
Housing Subcommittee:

- a. Gayle reported that the committee will be adding two members.
- b. Meetings will be held quarterly.
- c. Gayle gave written testimony at the Town Council meeting to support the retention of CIP funding in the 2025 budget for review and support of housing related zoning regulations.

Transportation Subcommittee: Beth Hillson reported that the committee hasn't met recently. Discussion about bike lanes and bicycle safety.

Outdoor Spaces and Building: Jennifer reported that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

- **Passport to Health Fair:** Big success. Nice attendance and good feedback. Looking forward to next year.

- **New Business**

- a. **LGBTQ+ Training Video:** Members watched at home and discussed briefly at the meeting. Final video will be watched at the May COA meeting. Gayle reported that there will be a PRIDE event on Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 – 7:00 at Hubbard Green and would like the COA and Senior Center to have a table.

- b. **Adjournment:** Motion made by Jennifer DiSette and seconded by Denise Weeks to adjourn at 6:00 p.m.

## 6. Next Scheduled Meeting: Monday, May 6, 2024, 5:00 p.m. (The COA meeting will begin at 5:00, immediately followed by the LGBTQ+ training.)